

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A belt-type fixing device comprising an endless-sheet-like fixing belt to be heated that is wound around a supporting member which is provided so as to be capable or incapable of rotating and around a nip forming member which is fixed so as to be incapable of rotating, and a pressurizing roller that can be driven to rotate and that is in pressure contact with the nip forming member with the fixing belt interposed between, wherein contact part between the fixing belt and the pressurizing roller forms a fixing nip, and, for a tension load  $W$  [N] on the fixing belt which is driven and rotated by the pressurizing roller and, a width  $L$  [m] of the fixing belt,  $W/L$  is set in a range from 18.0 to 107.9 [N/m].

2. A belt-type fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a mean pressure in the fixing nip is in a range from 50 to 250 kPa.

3. A belt-type fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a surface of the nip forming member that is opposite to the pressurizing roller is configured as a curved surface extending along an outer circumferential surface of the pressurizing roller so that a pressure

distribution in the fixing nip is made generally flat with respect to a paper feeding direction.

4. A belt-type fixing device as claimed in claim 3,  
5 wherein a radius R of curvature of the curved surface of the nip forming member preferably satisfies a following expression:

radius of pressurizing roller  $\leq R \leq$  radius of  
10 pressurizing roller  $\times 1.3$ .

5. A belt-type fixing device as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the supporting member is a rotatable heating roller having a heat source, and an arbitrary point on an inner  
15 surface of the fixing belt abuts on the heating roller for 0.2 second or longer in one revolution of the fixing belt.

6. A belt-type fixing device for fixing a toner image on a paper, the belt-type fixing device comprising:  
20 an endless-sheet-like belt member,  
a pressurizing roller which has an elasticity and on which the paper is passed through a fixing nip that is contact part between the pressurizing roller and an outer circumferential surface of the belt member,

a nip forming member that is harder than the pressurizing roller, that is positioned inside the belt member, that relatively presses the belt member against the pressurizing roller, and that has a pressing surface  
5 opposite to the pressurizing roller and formed of a curved surface extending along an outer circumferential surface of the pressurizing roller, and

a spring that provides the belt member with a tension such that, for a tension load  $W$  [N] and a width  $L$   
10 [m] of the belt member,  $W/L$  is in a range from 18.0 to 107.9 [N/m].

7. A belt-type fixing device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the tension that is provided for the belt member by  
15 the springs is in the range from 28.8 to 107.9 [N/m].

8. A belt-type fixing device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the tension that is provided for the belt member by the springs is in a range from 36.0 to 107.9 [N/m].

20 9. A belt-type fixing device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the pressurizing roller is driven to rotate, and wherein the belt member follows the pressurizing roller so as to rotate.